## The Enterprise.

Thursday, Dec. 25, 1879.

J.W. HOUGHTON, M.H. HOUGHTON, EDITORS.

#### Christmas.

At first, Christ mass was a movable festival, and afterward the 6th of January was observed, both as the day of our Lord's baptism and in celebrating his birth, but in the 4th century St. Cyril of Jerusalem, obtained an order from Julius 1, Bishop of Rome, to investigate concerning the date of Christ's birth, resulting in an agreement to fix it at December 25th, and certainly since A. D., 337, and some authorities put it as early as 138, it has been one of the most noted of Christian colemnities.

Since the 6th century, the Romish

Church have celebrated three masses tousher in the day, one at midnight, the second at early dawn and the third in the morning. The Romans, Irish and Germans have for centuries made the day one of great feasting, protracting the gayety through twelth night, January 6th, and with more or less enthusiasm keeping it up till Candlemas, February Ing strong resistance. Both parties are

In the Protestant countries of Europe, Christmas is regarded as the childrens Garcelon and council. festival, and presents between parents and children, brothers and sisters are in mask and frightfully fanciful from house to house, where he is received with solemn reverence by the parents, and after calling for the children and severe questioning of the father and

many are the tales and traditions of the mend that they investigate the causes gene Whitcomb, last Sabbath. We think the lake breezes must agree with splendor of the Christmas preparations, of the Maine steal, they might get some when the yule log glowed from ample political capital out of it. The "exohearths, tenants were entertained at the Hall, and the abundance of the lords was Vance, Pendleton, Windom and Blair. shared by the peasant.

"A Christmas gambol oft would cheer,
A poor man's heart through half the year."
The bay, the laurel, the holly, the ivy and misletoe are the favorite decorations ing the marshes of the Potomac, oppowhere these evergreens are to be had but substitutes are readily found where they are not, and though the Puritans abroad to spend the winter, as the exfrowned upon the Dutch innovation of a halstions from decaying vegetable matmerry Christmas and a Santa Claus, the observance of the day as a festal and religious holiday has spread from the Middle and Southern States until it covers all the land, and is so dear to the matter. hearts of the young it sweeps away all Next Monday is motion day in the the prejudice of the old.

The people of this country do not will ask that the case of Crittenden and abandon themselves to reckless merry Butler, to test the constutionality of making, as they must have done in the legal-tender act, be advanced on olden lands, according to the steries and the calenders, so as to be argued at too late. descriptions we have read and heard; once and decided as soon as possible. but few homes are so sternly practical or It is said that Secretary Evarts will apso poor that some little attempt is not pear with Mr. Edmonds against the made to surprise each member thereof legal-tender act. Congressman Critby gifts; while family and neighborhood dinner and evening parties, church and Sunday school observances make the day a religious and social festival. The custom of giving presents at Christmas or New Years, is becoming more and more general as the country grows older and luxuries increase. Every merchant and shop-keeper makes special provision for the holiday trade, and shopping for Christmas becomes more bewildering with every years new devices to lead one into temptation in money spending.

### LOUISIANA LETTER.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 8, 1879. MRS. HOUGHTON:—I had hoped before this letter, for I am trying to write it by my next writing to be able to tell you much of work commenced and progress being made in that direction, but sick better, for I am trying to write it by the uncertain light of a brush fire, having no other, time about 10:30 P. M., after an exhausting day's work. ness has confined me to my room for

mearly three weeks, so I will give you in this, comething of our surroundings.

Miss Cougill of Delaware, O., is with me and we have our home at the N. O. University, which is pleasantly situated in the upper part of the city. Just in front of us is Colliseum Square, comprising about five acres of ground. It is surrounded by live oaks that are always green, and is carpeted with green grass the year round. Nature has done that for it, and that is all that has been done. The other surroundings would lead any continued and there is a general failure of all crops except cotton, of which we are for it, and that is all that has been done. The other surroundings would lead any one to suppose that it would be a restful quiet day there, at least on the Sabbath. Just opposite us is an Episcopal Church, below us (south) is the Coliseum Baptist Church, while on the lower corner of the Square is the Trinity Episcopal Church, and opposite that the Disciple Church. On the next block above us is the M. E. Church, not forgetting to mantion only one block away, which is entirely covered with Catholic buildings, church, convent, asylum, etc.

more than a year a terrible drouth has continued and there is a general failure of all crops except cotton, of which we are gathering one-third of a crop, and I don't know how some families are to get food and clothing this winter.

They are generally industrious and a wery peaceable and law abiding people, and are worthy of encouragement in to read the Bible without having to spell out nearly every word and to master the simple rules of arithmetic, so that they shall not be so shame using the continued and there is a general failure of all crops except cotton, of which we are gathering one-third of a crop, and I don't know how some families are to get food and clothing this winter.

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church, convent, asylum, etc. Well, our Square is a gala place on Sundays, and all day long we must hear the shouts and hurrahs, always accompanying base ball playing, from early morn till night. Nor can we find any quiet Sabbath-like appearance by wandering among and going to other parts, for as we pass along the streets, business places of trade seem to be doing a more lively work than on any other day. The groceries are all liquor stores, and one man told me he could not give up the liquor trade, for in it was his greatest profit, that where he could sell five cents worth of bread, he could sell five cents worth of bread, he could sell ten of whisky. The evils of drink are so constantly before me that it is difficult to separate it from any of the associations we meet with along the street, especially on the Sabbath, and we feel like exclaiming, "Oh, for a Nehemiah in this day with both the power and the will to go out and command that the Well, our Square is a gala place on Sundays, and all day long we must hear the shouts and hurrahs, always accomthe will to go out and command that the markets shall be closed, and all trafficking

cease on the Sabbath day."

Now I wish to tell you something of our plan of work; which is to open an industrial mission school. I had engaged the building before my sickness. It is a large old church, in a central portion, for four of the M. E. Colored Churches, and their sourroundings, which are large indeed. We shall have to pay \$10 a month for the building. Our idea is to gather in from the byways and alley the poorest that are having no opportunity of any teaching, more especially the girls, and the mothers too, if we can get them, and to have our school open.

four days in the week, the other two days visiting families.

Our school will be something after the fashion of Muellers ragged schools of London, and I think we require quite as much faith to undertake it, without any visible means of support, either for that, or ourselves, but we accept the promise to "trust in the Lord and do good, and verily thou shalt be fed." Sister Cougill came in quite discouraged; said she found so many that would be glad to have their children in the school and Sabbath school, but they had no clothes,

Sabbath school, but they had no clothes when, lo, in comes our box from the good friends in Wellington, not only packed, but pressed down and running over with just what was needed for every manner of person from the cradle

to old age. The school is needed and if possible hundreds more like it, for ignorance pre-vails to an alarming extent, and no wars or rumors of wars is ever going to do away with the degredation that prevails in this land; but Gospel light and knowledge must do it.

Respectfully yours, Mrs. A. M. Ryder, 188 Race St., New Orleans, La. OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

December 20th, 1879 The entire Maine delegation left for home as soon as Congress adjourned and will be present when the Legislature is convened at Augusta. Republicans here are much in doubt as to whether their brethren in Maine will submit to be counted out, without makjoining in belding indignation meetings and denouncing the action of Governor

Senator Vorhees introduced a reso lution to investigate the cause of the customary; the father taking that annu- negro exodus from South Carolina and al occasion, also to remind his sons of other Southern States, to Indiana. On their faults of character and conduct and the discussion which preceded its pasthe mother to instruct her daughters with sage, Senator Windom of Minnesota especially solemnity, and also to praise made an excellent speech, showing the them in any improvement she has ob real causes of the exodus to be the utserved. It is further related that still in ter impossibility of the negroes obtainsome of the villages of Germany the ing their political rights in the South presents are all sent to one person, who under Democratic rule. He quoted from a report of a Democratic commit- sufferer dress as Kuecht Rupert, who goes tee sent South several years ago to investigate some of the numerous outrages upon Republican voters, which says, "the fate of the negro is either exodus or extinction." Seeing their mistake, the Democrats attempted to mother as to the past behavior of each, kill the resolution, but it was adopted bestows the gifts according to merit, a by Republican voters. We are perfect- ly willing for the Democrats to make acquaintances in Sullivan. all the political capital they can out of In Northern Europe and England, such investigations as this, and recomdus" committee is Messrs. Voorhees,

The President yesterday sent a special message to Congress, calling necessity of adopting some method of drainsite the city. This is a matter of importance, not only to the residents of this city, but to all who come here from abroad to spend the winter, as the exgress and prompt action taken in the they cannot do all their work with that

Supreme Court, and Senatar Edmonds tenden of New York, says he thinks in fluence enough can be brought to bear on the Supreme Court judges to advance the suit on the docket. HOWARD.

### TEXAS LETTER: 1

We take the liberty of publishing the following private letter, because we think our readers will be as glad as ourselves to hear from a former resident of Wellington, and because the worthy cause for which it pleads can in this way best be brought to the attention of the

BLANCO, Texas, Dec. 5, 1879. Please do not think me entirely bereft of reason because of the appearance of

My haste in writing to-night is that nearly three weeks, so I will give you in I have a chance to send to the office at

out nearly every word and to master the simple rules of arithmetic, so that they shall not be so shamefully cheeted in

every business transaction.

#### COMMUNICATIONS. CLARKSFIELD.

December 15, 1879. The marriage ceremony of Miss Mira Fisher of Clarksfield, and Mr. Charles

#### PENFIELD.

DEC., 22, 1879. Mrs. Bishop Richmond, whose sickness we mentioned last week, died last Friday Morning. The funeral was at-tended Sabbath morning at the M. E. Church, of which she was for forty years a very devoted member. Services conducted by her pastor, assisted by

Mr. and Mrs. McEwing, of Fostoria are visiting in town. Mr. Jackson Norton, from Michigan, s visiting his brother, G. H. Norton,

#### SPENCER.

December 20, 1879. Considerable snow is on the ground

ut no sleighing. It seems that a preponderance of av-erdupoise and articulating gas proved too much for the literary social and they adjourned to some future time when they can organize with less weight. A sham law suit was gotten up by the young men of this place, which proved a decided success. The prosecution did not succeed in sending him South, because the jury did not agree.

A series of club dances has com-

held Thursday evenings; are all quiet and orderly so far.

All had a fine time at the apron party, gotten up by the band. Give us another

menced in Murray's Hall. They are

We understand that Mrs. N. Myere is apidly recovering from a very violent attack of sickness, under the treatment of Dr Britain of this place. An old and respected citizen of Spen-

cer, Mr. Bowersock, passed away last Monday evening. He has been a great from paralysis for about two TELL O. PHONE.

#### SULLIVAN.

DEC. 22, 1879. We are all wondering what we are going to get on Christmas.

We had the pleasure of shaking hands with one of your old typos, Euhim, for he looks better than we ever

Rev. Shutter, of Oberlin, filled the pulpit at the Baptist Church, last Sabbath afternoon and evening. He de-livered two excellent discourses.

The news has just reached our sanc-tum that Mr. Gordon McAdoo and Miss Libbie Zainly were married last Saturbut buds left in Sullivan.

That young Lochinvar that came out from the west and took back Miss Fiori Chandler, is now the father of a bouncing boy.

Perhaps 'Old Solomon' had bet'er wish all his friends a "Merry Christmas" and a "Happy New Year" before it is OLD SOLOMON.

Mr. EDITOR:-A few days spent in Knox and Licking counties were so pleasant and profitable to me I will try to give your readers the benefit of my observations. These counties are noted for their rich productive fields and their improved breeds of stock. It was my privilege to form the acquaintance of several of the most noted stock raisers in Ohio, who (fortunately) live in these counties.

I first met Mr. Joseph Copper, a gentleman in the true sense of the word, whose acquaintance I had formed in other days. He is an extensive breeder of Spanish Merino sheep, and among his large flocks may be found some of the best Ohio can boast. His eatimable wife, with her well-spread tables, assures you you are made welcome His kind-hearted sons are ever ready to impart any information connected with their department. He also has a fine Lt of Durham cattle, with Earl of Dun-

can at the head of the herd. A short drive in his carriage took us to the pallatial home of Hon. Columbus Dellano, who lives two miles southeast of Mt. Vernon, surrounded by several hundred acres of land, with cattle upon a thousand hills, one might justly infer he was Job's direct off-spring. He enjoys systematic farming, under his own personal direction. His national reputation excuses me from further

We passed several choice flocks an herds worthy of mention, had we space and time. Next we enter Licking county and with its natural advantages beauty of scenery, fertility of its soil, may safely be said to be the "garden of Ohio." Lest my article weary you, I will give history of mounds, etc., anon

### MARRIED.

WHITCOMB.—FULLER.—At the residence of the bride's parents, Wednesday evening Dec. 17, '79, by Rev. Bennias Husbour, Mr. Hiram S. Whitcomb, of Pittsfield, and Miss Mary Fuller of Ridgeville. BENNETT-WHITCOMB .- Saturday, Dec 20, 1879, at the residence of the bride's parents, by the Rev. M. D. Shutter, Mr. S. L. Bednett of Black Earth, Wis., to Miss Carrie M. Whitcomb of Sullivan, O.

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Having purchased the stock of GROCERIES and CLOTHING,

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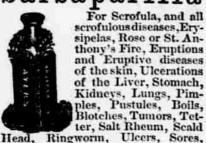
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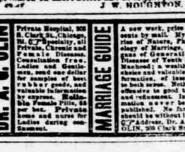
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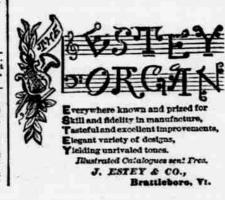
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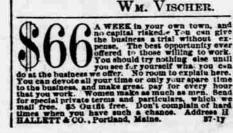


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